

City of Harrington
MINUTES
Swearing In Ceremony and City Council Organizational Meeting
June 1, 2015

A swearing in ceremony for the newly elected Council Members of the Harrington City Council was held at Harrington City Hall, 106 Dorman Street, on June 1, 2015 and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Council Member Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Elect Eric Marquis; Council Member Elect Amy Minner; Council Member Charles W. Porter; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; William Pepper, City Solicitor; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; Dean Gary, Accountant; Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Tom Wilkes, Remington, Vernick, and Beach, City Engineer; Pastor Ken Figgs, Calvary Wesleyan Church; Daryl Minner; Bobby Outten; John Condrón; Jennifer Antonik; Andrew Rockwell; and D. Caulo.

Council Members Fonda Coleman and Kenneth W. Stubbs were absent.

Mayor Moyer opened the Swearing In Ceremony at 6:01 p.m.

Mayor Moyer welcomed everyone to the Swearing In Ceremony.

Pastor Figgs said a prayer for the City, State, and Country.

The Clerk of Council swore in Council Member Amy Minner and Council Member Elect Eric Marquis.

Refreshments were served.

Following the Swearing In Ceremony, the Organizational Meeting of the Harrington City Council was held and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Council Member Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Eric Marquis; Council Member Amy Minner; Council Member Charles W. Porter; Council Member Kenneth W. Stubbs; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; William Pepper, City Solicitor; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; Dean Gary, Accountant; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Tom Wilkes, Remington, Vernick, and Beach, City Engineer; Pastor Ken Figgs, Calvary Wesleyan Church; Daryl Minner; Bobby Outten; John Condrón; Jennifer Antonik; Andrew Rockwell; and D. Caulo.

Council Member Kenneth W. Stubbs entered the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Council Member Fonda Coleman was absent.

Mayor Moyer called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll was called.

Annual Report to the Electors of the City

The City Manager read the following on behalf of Mayor Moyer:

It is my sincere belief that the City is in the strongest position it has been in a very long time. It is fiscally sound because of changes that have been made in the last two years. These modifications prevented increased debt, allowed us to operate our utilities responsibly, brought the City to a stable fiscal position, and the year will be ending with a small reserve for emergencies.

We have begun a large number of projects, some that have been talked about for years. Repairs to the sewer lines are taking place to help reduce the amount of rainwater that goes into the sewer system. The City's overall cost savings by reducing the amount of rainwater being transmitted and treated will result in savings to the citizens. This will also help the City to stabilize costs to the residents. The shift in the way the City bills for water and sewer has made these repairs possible without the City incurring additional debt. Keeping debt down and preventing tax increases is important to all citizens of Harrington. There has been a reduction of 6.5% in the amount of water consumed by the residents. This equals 3.8 million gallons of water since January. Less water being used results in the reduction of sewer costs as well. Sewer flow is down by just under 11%. In addition, the trash service contract has been renewed with no cost increase to the citizens.

We have created a balanced budget for fiscal year 2016, while at the same time reducing the debt service. The City has cut the cost of workers comp insurance by joining DFIT which is a self-insured group. Moving the employee health insurance to the State of Delaware plan has saved money while maintaining the same level of service.

There have been several projects this year to maintain and enhance Harrington. There were many repairs made to the city museum by the Historical Society, protecting our heritage. The Greater Harrington Historical Society is a volunteer group and are part of the silent heroes of the City. The Harrington Parks and Recreation building with the guidance of Bill Falasco and Faye Smith has been extensively renovated through grants and monies provided by Senator Simpson, Representative Outten, Representative Wilson, the General Assembly, and the USDA. The pavilion at Freedom Park now has a permanent movie screen and

movies have been enjoyed by many on Saturdays during the summer months. This has become a community gathering place, and the improvements were paid for by donations at no cost to the residents. Chief Norman Barlow has been named Police Chief of the Year by the Delaware League of Local Governments. Congratulations Chief Barlow. We are very proud of you.

Harrington continues to move forward. The City is finalizing a major Zoning Code rewrite which will help in the growth of the City by simplifying the process for contractors to encourage building. New construction is on the rise from the previous year. We have a business going in at Spartan Station that will employ 30 people and is actively taking job applications; UPS has installed a seasonal center and may be looking to have a permanent facility within city limits; the Pliant building has been purchased and is in development by the owner; and development may begin again in Friendship Village. In addition, we are evaluating library sites and considering a new library building.

As the Mayor, I will be asking the City Council for committees to be reformed and for term limits to be established. Looking hard at what the contractors need to get businesses to come to town and homes built. What policies need to be put in place for permitting to become easier and clearer. As a government, we will continue to be open and transparent, improve communication, and seek more stakeholder involvement in the decision making process by seeking more opinions and keeping an open dialogue with the residents and property owners.

In closing, I would like to thank each and every Council Person, City Manager Terry Tieman, the employees in City Hall, Alan Moore and Public Works team, Christine Hayward and her crew at the Library, Bill and Faye at Parks and Recreation, Carl in Code Enforcement, and Chief Barlow and all the police officers for putting themselves out their everyday to protect each and every one of us. Without these people the progress we have made in the last year would not have been possible. I ask that every resident of the City take the time to thank these people when they run across the in their travels.

Thank you to the citizens and business owners of Harrington for making this a great town to live and work in.

Election of Vice Mayor and appointment of Committees and Commissions

A MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to select Council Member Bivans as Vice Mayor. Roll was called: 5 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Bivans – Yes, Coleman – Absent, Marquis – Yes, Minner – Yes, Porter – Yes, Stubbs – Yes). The MOTION passed unanimously.

Mayor Moyer stated that Walter Perdue's term on the Board of Adjustment has expired, and he would like to appoint Kathy Blanchette. Council Member Porter

asked if Mr. Perdue was contacted about renewing his term. Mayor Moyer replied that he has not been in contact with him.

Mayor Moyer stated that he would like to reappoint James Coudriet to the Planning Commission in order to stagger the terms.

Council Member Porter stated that the Board of Adjustment Members have to attend a class, and the existing members should remain.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to accept the appointments to the Planning Commission, HPR Advisory Committee, HPR Board of Trustees, Board of Library Trustees, Library Building Committee, and Library Site Selection and Procurement Committee as presented. The MOTION passed unanimously.

[A vacancy exists on the Board of Adjustment, because Walter H. Perdue's term has expired, and no appointment was made. A list of committee appointments is attached to these minutes.]

Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

City Council Comments

Council Member Porter thanked the members of the committees for serving and stated that the City is going in a positive direction.

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Minner, to adjourn the City Council Organizational Meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Blanchies
Clerk of Council

Attachments: Committee Appointments 2015-2016

Committee Appointments 2015-2016

Planning Commission

Reappointment for 3 year term:
James Coudriet – 2015-2018

Current members:
Elizabeth Brode – 2013-2016
Jeff Rettig – 2014-2017
William Rogers – 2014-2017
Stacey Sizemore – 2013-2016

HPR Advisory Committee

Charles Clegg
Scott Fleming
William Hudran
Daryl Minner
Nichole Moxley
Gwen Scott

Board of Library Trustees

Linda Braswell
Barry Breeding
Doug Crouse
Marie Cunningham
Linda Tjaden
Betty Ann VanVessen

Board of Adjustment

*No appointment made.
Vacancy exists.*

Current members:
Marie Cunningham – 2014-2017
Dan McLaughlin – 2013-2016
Dan Tartt – 2013-2016
Frank Tolson – 2014-2017

HPR Board of Trustees (Friends of HPR)

Doug Poore, President
Rob Taylor, Vice President
Dana Taylor, Treasurer
Amanda Outten, Secretary

Library Building Committee

Linda Chick
Doug Crouse
Christine Hayward, Lib. Director
Council Member Amy Minner
Mayor Anthony Moyer
Council Member Charles Porter
Council Member Kenneth Stubbs
Teresa Tieman, City Manager

Library Site Selection & Procurement Committee

James Coudriet
Doug Crouse
Christine Hayward, Library Director
Council Member Amy Minner
Council Member Charles W. Porter
Alternate: Marie Cunningham